

Carrie Leaps for Literacy

September 8 was International Literacy Day and Carrie Scott, Community Outreach Supervisor, celebrated by skydiving from 13,000 feet. She wanted to celebrate her 25 years of involvement in literacy and raise \$13,000 in pledges for the San Diego Council on Literacy.

"It was exciting! I highly recommend this to everyone," said Carrie, after her jump. She compared her skydive with her first experience with literacy. "As a first-time literacy professional or volunteer, you don't know what to expect. All you know is that you are excited, nervous and passionate about the cause, so you dive in headfirst."

Carrie's "Leap for Literacy" was donated by the Tsunami Skydivers in Oceanside, and Carrie was assisted by skydiving instructor Damien Germano, while skydiver Nikki Willhite filmed the event. See the video at www.utsandiego.com/video/play/60653.

Carrie is a member of the board for the San Diego Council on Literacy, and she hopes her jump will raise awareness of literacy. All money raised from pledges will support literacy programs the Council offers throughout the San Diego area.

Donations can be made until September 18 to Carrie Scott's *Leap for Literacy* at www.youcaring.org/literacyleap.



Carrie Scott celebrates International Literacy Day on September 8 with a "Leap for Literacy" from 13,000 feet.

"Setting Goals that Stick"

A goal-setting workshop for learners will be presented Tuesday, October 15, 6:00-7:30 p.m. This workshop will be taught by learners Nyla H., Joyce F., and Carmen C.

Participants will:

- Learn how to set goals
- Develop plans to accomplish goals
- Avoid the "seven sins" of goal setting

If you would like to attend this workshop, stop by the front desk and let a staff member know.

Second Chance—by Kristin C.

The scariest thing I have gone through is getting a biopsy and surgery because a lump was found during a routine mammogram. I had to wait a month before my surgery was scheduled. It was very stressful because I had too much time to worry. Finally, the nurse called to say my biopsy was scheduled for March 29.

As soon as I entered Scripps Hospital in La Jolla, I had to go to the breast cancer center to get a needle biopsy. This was done before I had my surgery to remove a tumor cell. The nurse wheeled me in the operation room and they gave me a shot to go to sleep. When the

procedure was done, the nurse wheeled me in the recovery room. Later, the nurse took me to see my mom and dad who were loving and supportive throughout my surgery.

That same day, I went to my parents' house. My parents took care of me until I recovered. If I hadn't had the surgery, the tumor could have developed into breast cancer. I couldn't take that chance. I guess you can say I was given a second chance. Thank you, God! With this second chance, I am eating healthier, walking more, and researching recipes for a better, healthier life!

Write a Letter to Your Favorite Author

Books make a big impact on our lives. They provide us with new information, they can make us laugh or cry, and sometimes they change our lives.

In a special program for adult learners sponsored by the Southern California Library Literacy Network, you can write a letter to an author of a book and tell them how the book has influenced your life. The book can be one you've read or it can be a book on CD you have listened to.

This is a unique opportunity for tutors and learners to work together in choosing a book, reading for pleasure and comprehension, and writing a letter.



- Pick up an information packet from a staff member.
- Read or listen to a book that inspires you.
- Write a letter to the author.
- Give your letter and entry form to a staff member for copying and mailing.

We must receive your letter and entry form
by Thursday, December 5.

No late entries will be considered.

Start now and join the challenge!

Summer Reading Program

The summer Reading Program ended on August 2, 2013. This year Literacy Services experienced a 50% increase in the number of unique participants and a 158% increase in the number of entries.



The winners in the weekly drawing were:

- Week 1: **Richard R.**
- Week 2: **Jason B.**
- Week 3: **Catalina L.**
- Week 4: **Jaime M.**
- Week 5: **Bob P.**
- Week 6: **Bruce M.**
- Week 7: **Jason H.**

Congratulations to everyone who participated, and we think learner Lupe G. had the right idea when she said, "Well, as long as I am reading, I'm already a winner."



- Maggie T.** – magazine
- Harriet N.** – magazines, cookies
- Jean C.** – candy
- Phyllis K.** – donuts, cookies
- Elmer R.** – magazines, home grown vegetables
- Hanna G.** – coffee
- Sandi Z.** – cake, cards, calendars
- Tany T.** – brownies, cookies
- Louise D.** – tea, cookies, books
- Rachel F.** – tea
- Nyla H.** – cookies, printer cartridges, photo paper
- Ki N.** – green tea
- Janelle J.** – coffee
- Joyce F.** – books, notecards
- Vina D.** – McDonald's lunch
- Judy W.** – cookies
- Mary Lou S.** – donuts
- Elva M.** – fruit, plates, forks
- Margaret R.** – cookies
- Maria S.** – book

Update Your Lexile Reading List

Recently we added hundreds of new books to our collection and said goodbye to some older books that had not been checked out for a long time. Stop by the front desk and request an updated copy of your Lexile Reading List.

Tutors Help Develop New Learning Resource



Upper left: Linda C., and Barbara B. Upper right: Susan B., John R., Rose D., Ein D., and Sandi M. Center standing: Lisa F., Sandy Z., Harriet N., Ki N., Lee R., Elmer R. Center seated: Tany T., Louise D., Mary Lou S., Steve P., and Janelle J.

Eighteen tutors participated in the recent *Live & Learn* workshops about a technique that uses the learner's own words and life experiences to develop their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

During the workshop, led by staff member Judy, tutors learned to use this approach, which supports the theory that adults learn best when they can immediately apply what they learn. Tutors also practiced using the technique by role-playing as both learner and tutor.

A unique feature of this workshop, in addition to learning, was that the tutors also provided

input for the development of this new learning resource. Tutors gave suggestions based on their experiences with their learners who have varied goals and skill levels. During the session Judy accumulated their comments and suggestions, which she will use as she develops the new learning resource. "I really appreciate the input tutors gave during the workshops," says Judy. "They provided valuable perspectives I would not have had otherwise."

When it is completed later this year, the *Live & Learn* resource will be available to all learners and tutors.

On August 25, 2008, the Learning Center opened its doors for the first time.



Happy Fifth!